(*b*) if so, whether the Government have passed any orders on the report of enquiry;

(*c*) who made the enquiry?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) The enquiry is not completely over.

(*b*) No answer necessary in view of answer to (*a*).

(*c*) The preliminary enquiry was conducted by Mr. K. N. Eapen, the Personal Veterinary Assistant. A detailed audit was conducted by Messrs. P. Krishnan Nambiar, A. V. Parameswara Ayyar and K. Govinda Warriar, of the Office of the Comptroller of Finance and Accounts.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* With regard to this question, I want to explain matters to the Council. There is some insinuation that deliberately these things are delayed. It is not so. We have to go through various processes, and Government are going through those processes and making exhaustive enquiries into this.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Was there not an article in some local paper?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes. It is so. That is why I explained that Government are taking action. The accused people have got some right. They must be recognised and the proper procedure has to be adopted. Therefore, that means delay.

POTATOES—CULTIVATION OF—AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

140. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether any experiments have been made by the Agricultural Department to cultivate potatoes;

(*b*) whether there are not places in Cochin State, the climatic conditions of which suit potato cultivation?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The climatic and soil conditions of Nelliampathies may suit potato cultivation, but the trial so far made by the resident planters have not been a success. Government have not made a trial. Potato cultivation was tried in the Government

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Central Farm, Ollukara, fifteen years ago but the experiment was not a success due to climatic conditions. For the successful cultivation it requires a cool dry climate and a well drained rich soil.

TRAINING CLASS—RURAL WORKERS—RURAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

141. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) when was the last training class for the Rural Workers conducted in the Rural Development Centre, Cherpu;

(*b*) whether the training class has been discontinued;

(*c*) how many sessions of training classes have been conducted when Mr. Jesudas was the officer; how many subsequently?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) 26th Makaram 1116 to 2nd Kumbham 1116.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) 15 in the time of Mr. Jesudas, and subsequently nil.

ANONYMOUS AND PSEUDONYMOUS PETITIONS—DISPOSAL OF

142. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will Government be pleased to print and place on the Table of the House, Government Circular No. 4/17, dated 24th October 1941, PW-4. 19681/16 regarding disposal of anonymous and pseudonymous petitions; what was the immediate reason to pass such a Circular?

Rao Sahib K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* A copy of the Circular is appended (Appendix I). As there was no definite rule in the State regarding anonymous petitions as in British India, it was considered necessary to issue the Circular.

COPYISTS OR CLERKS IN THE CIVIL AND CRIMINAL JUDICIAL DEPARTMENTS—CONDITIONS OF PAY, ETC.

143. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will Government be pleased to state the number of copyists or clerks or attenders who have put in more than 10 years' service in the Criminal and Civil Judicial Departments, and who still continue to draw a monthly pay of Rs. 25 and below?

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